

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
McGavock Family Cemetery
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

South side Rt. 81 service road east of junction with Rt. 52
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN
Fort Chiswell
STATE
Virginia
VICINITY OF
X
Ninth (William Wampler)
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
CODE
51
COUNTY
Wythe
CODE
197

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: Cemetery

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Mrs. Cloyd McGavock (in charge of maintenance)
STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN
Wytheville
VICINITY OF
STATE
Virginia 24382

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Wythe County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN
Wytheville
STATE
Virginia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey

DATE
1968, 1977
_FEDERAL STATE _COUNTY _LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, 221 Governor Street

CITY, TOWN
Richmond
STATE
Virginia 23219

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Set on a hill above the McGavock family mansion at Fort Chiswell, the McGavock Cemetery contains a small collection of about fifteen skillfully carved, well-preserved gravestones. Germanic in style, these stones are attributed to Laurence Krone, the most important of the Southwest Virginia carvers.

The stones are all sandstone slabs with rounded shoulders and a three-quarter disc at the top center. Like most Germanic stones, they are double-sided, with a design on the reverse, and a different design framing an inscription on the obverse. The reverse designs all include engaged colonettes linked at the top to pinwheels connected by a reeded ribbon band. Overlapping the bank and extending into the upper lobe is a single design, whether a tulip, a fern, or a sunflower. Sometimes, as in the case of the Sally Kent stone, there is another design in the field between the colonettes. Here it consists of a circular basket enclosing fern fronds and serving as a base for four sunflowers. The curved edges of the stones are sometimes reeded, and the obverse of each is decorated with a crimped reeded border, a fern or a rosette in the upper lobe and an inscription in simple block letters. Most of the stones have footstones. These are decorated like the headstones, but the inscriptions are restricted to the initials of the dead person.

Although the death dates on these Krone stones range from 1812 to the late 1830s, the fact that they were all made by Krone and that he used a single design scheme out of several that his work in Wythe County embodies suggests that these stones were all made to order at one time before 1840.

The cemetery also contains a number of striking late 19th-century monuments to other members of the McGavock family. Most notable are two large marble obelisks topped by shrouded urns, a shorter square pier capped by a shrouded urn and decorated with swags and inverted torches at the corners, and a marble arch with shrouded urns at the springings and a cross at its apex. The cemetery is surrounded by an iron fence with cylindrical pales and intermittent urn-capped cylindrical posts.

DU

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The register bounds coincide with the boundaries of the cemetery as delineated on the U.S.G.S. Max Meadows quadrangle.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES ca. 1812-present BUILDER/ARCHITECT Laurence Krone (carver of several stones)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The McGavock Family Cemetery is noted for its rich collection of 19th-century funerary art, including an important group of Germanic stones, the only ones of their type located in a family burying ground. The stones are attributed to Laurence Krone, the best of the region's Germanic carvers, and the only one to be identified by name. In addition to its artistic interest, the McGavock cemetery is significant for its association with a prominent Southwest Virginia pioneer family.

James McGavock, Sr. of Rockbridge County moved to what is now Wythe County in 1771 where he purchased the Fort Chiswell property and established a highly successful ordinary. At his death in 1812 the tract was left to a son, James McGavock, Jr., (1764-1838). He was in turn succeeded by his two sons Joseph Cloyd McGavock and Stephen M. McGavock. These two men undertook a massive improvement project emblematic of their family's status as one of Wythe County's oldest and most influential clans. Immediately after their father's death they built themselves the enormous brick Greek Revival-style mansion which overlooks the site of the original family house. At the same time, they commemorated the family's long prominence in the area by engaging Laurence Krone, the county's most skillful carver, to fashion monuments for their father, grandfather, and aunts and uncles. These stones equal in craftsmanship and design the high quality of the mansion, and like it are the marks of a family certain of its position and eager to display it to the world.

The McGavock family continued to bury its members under elaborate monuments there throughout the 19th century, and the cemetery remains in use today.

DU/MTP

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Gray, Robert. The McGavock Family, A Genealogical History. (Richmond, 1903).
 Kegley, Mary B. Personal Communication, Jan. 24, 1979.
 Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Archives.
 Wust, Klaus. Folk Art in Stone. (Edinburg: Shenandoah History, 1970).

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	7	5	0	6	6	8	0	4	0	8	8	8	5	0
ZONE		EASTING				NORTHING								

C

ZONE		EASTING				NORTHING								

QUADRANGLE NAME Max Meadows, Va.

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

B

ZONE		EASTING				NORTHING								

D

ZONE		EASTING				NORTHING								

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at a point approximately 650' W of the SW ramp of the intersections of Interstate Routes 77 & 81 and 4600' due S of Reed Creek; thence extending 100' E; thence extending 75' S; thence extending 100' W; thence extending 75' N to point of origin.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE

February 1979

STREET & NUMBER

221 Governor Street

TELEPHONE

(804) 786-3144

CITY OR TOWN

Richmond

STATE

Virginia 23219

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE Tucker Hill, Executive Director
 Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE **MAR 20 1979**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

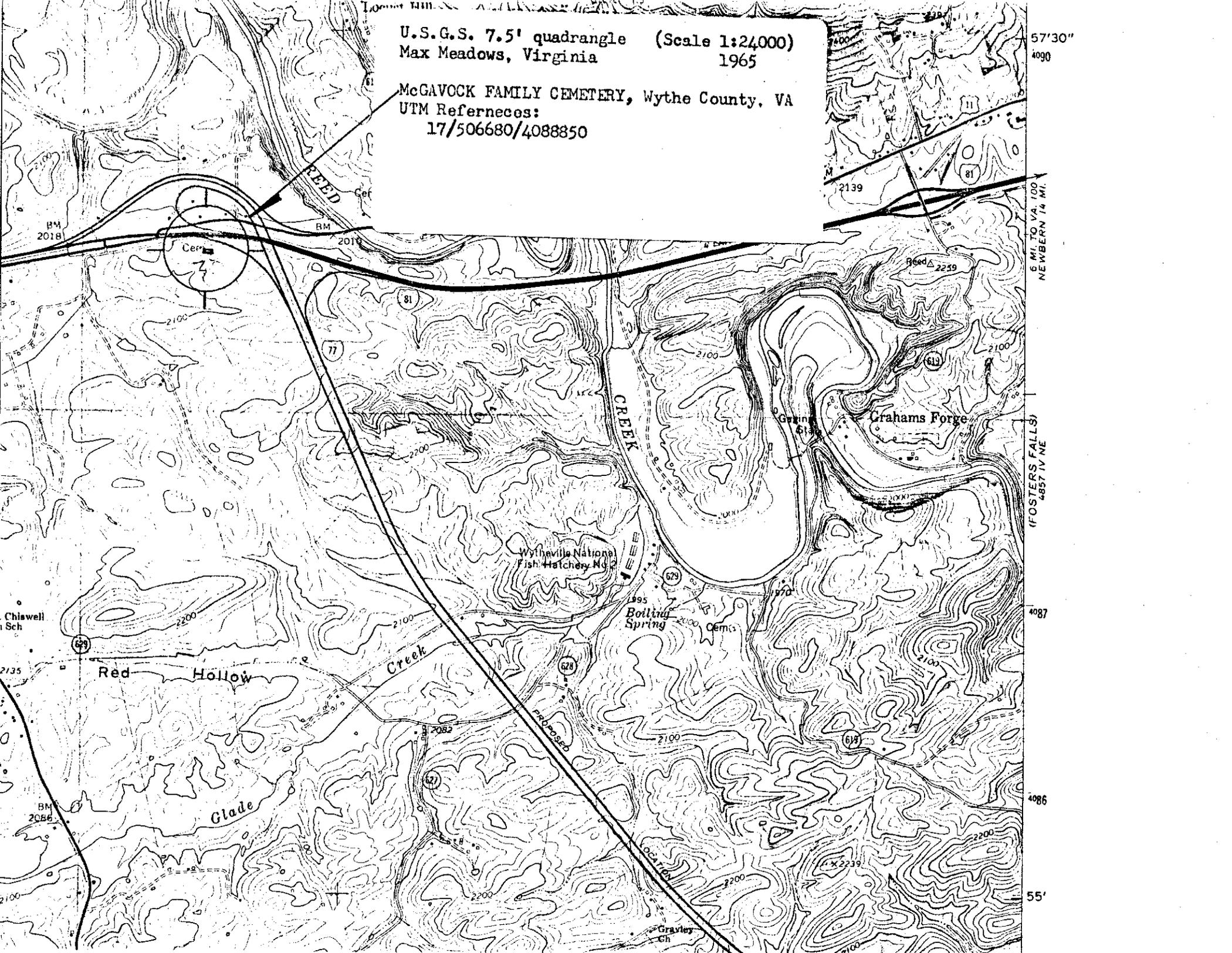
ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

U.S.G.S. 7.5' quadrangle (Scale 1:24,000)
Max Meadows, Virginia 1965

McGAVOCK FAMILY CEMETERY, Wythe County, VA
UTM Referencos:
17/506680/408850



57'30"
4090

6 MI. TO VA. 100
NEWBORN 1/4 MI.

(FOSTERS FALLS)
4857 IV NE

4087

4086

55'